(*f*) grass may be supplied, at not less than cost price, for their own horses to all Government servants employed on famine-relief duty;

(*g*) if the supply is more than sufficient to meet the requirements of cultivators, the surplus stock may be distributed to other persons, for animals actually in use, at not less than cost price.

226. *Cattle camps.*—In organizing cattle camps attention should be paid to the following points:—

(*a*) cattle camps should be tried only so far as careful and expert management, with the advice of a veterinary expert always available, can be secured;

(*b*) the success of a camp depends on the careful selection of the animals for admission; the selection should be made by an expert and only animals which are likely to thrive from the first—animals from one to eight years of age, plough bullocks and breeding cows with a few bulls of the best breed—should be admitted;

(*c*) animals may be received by gift or purchase conditionally or unconditionally; it is generally better to buy the cattle and re-sell them at a fair price to their former owners, if possible, at the end of the famine than to keep them at the risk and cost of the owners;

(*d*) a certain number of she-buffaloes, ranging in age from two to seven years, should also be admitted as they will eat the inferior grass rejected by the bullocks and cows;

(*e*) a small allowance of oilcake (*sesamum*) should be given at first to the weaker animals.

(*f*) emergency fodders such as cactus should be used so as to demonstrate their utility to the people.

CHAPTER XVII.—Miscellaneous

227. *Periodical reports and returns.*—The following periodical reports and returns shall be submitted during the continuance of scarcity or famine;

By the Collector to Government—

(*a*) a weekly season telegram in Form 3;

(*b*) a weekly progress return of relief works in Form 4;

(*c*) a weekly progress return of gratuitous relief in Form 5;

(*d*) a monthly report on the general progress of relief operations dealing with the matters noted in Form 6;

(*e*) a monthly statement in Form 7 for submission to Government of India;

By the Local Government to the Government of India—

(*f*) a monthly statement in Form 7 accompanied by remarks in Form 6.

Rules for the preparation of the monthly statements required by the Government of India are given in Appendix II. A list of reports and returns to be submitted by the several officers under the Code is given in Appendix VIII.

228. *Immediate relief in all urgent cases.*—All rules and orders of the Code regarding the methods of relieving the several classes of distressed persons shall be subject to the provision that, as far as possible, immediate relief is to be given to every one manifestly suffering from the want of food. Therefore, when the conditions brought to the personal notice of any officer disclose the urgent and obvious need for relief beyond his prescribed powers of sanction, he is expected to take action at once in anticipation of the sanction of superior authority reporting immediately the action taken by him.

229. *Immigrants from Indian States.*—Migrants should not ordinarily be interfered with except—

(*i*) when they are obviously too weak to carry out the journey they propose;

(*ii*) when it is known that the place to which they propose to go is unable to support them;

(*iii*) when they are wandering aimlessly.

On routes where migration is large a regular chain of relief depôts should be established, the duties of the officers in charge being to sell to migrants, who are able to pay, what they want in the shape of grain and fodder, to relieve the manifestly destitute, to record the volume and character of the migration, to send early information to the authorities of the localities from which, and of the countries to which, the wanderers are moving, to tell the latter where they will probably best find what they seek, and to warn them against tracts suffering from scarcity. In treating applicants for relief no distinction should be made between those who come from British territory and those who have migrated from Indian States. Should the volume of immigration from any Indian State be so large and of such a character as to indicate the want of an adequate system of famine relief in that State, the Collector should call the attention of Government and of the State authorities concerned to the fact; but meanwhile he should treat the immigrants as if they were British subjects. No pressure should be put upon such immigrants to return to their homes until the Collector, after communication with the State authorities, is thoroughly satisfied, that these authorities are in a position to take over and provide for them and that there is no danger in sending them back. When the Collector is so satisfied, he should issue instructions for their collection on works and in poor-houses, as the case may be, and, in communication with the authorities of the State concerned, should make arrangements for their removal, and, where necessary, for their support on the homeward journey. Such arrangements should be carried out as nearly as possible in the manner prescribed for drafting British subjects to their homes at the close of relief operations, the usual valedictory dole being given to those who would be given it if they were British subjects.

230. *Registration of births and deaths on relief works and in poor-houses.*—It shall be the duty of the village officers of each village in which a scarcity or famine relief work or poor-house is situated to open for the work or poor-house a separate Births and Deaths Register and to enter in this camp or poor-house register all births and deaths which occur in the camp or poor-house. It shall be the duty of the Charge Officer or poor-house superintendent to cause all officers employed on the work or in the poor-house to supply to the village officers information of all births and deaths occurring in the camp or poor-house and of the medical officer to supply such information for the hospital.

231. *Free collection of edible forest produce.*—(*a*) When any reserved or protected Government forests, situated in a tract affected by scarcity or famine, contain an important supply of forest produce capable of being utilized as food for human beings, the Collector may apply to the Commissioner for permission to suspend for the time being any rules and regulations under the Indian Forest Act which do not permit of the edible forest produce to be utilized free of charge by persons in distress; and the Commissioner in consultation with the Conservator of Forests may, at his discretion, sanction the suspension of such rules and regulations.

(*b*) Similarly, the Collector shall have power to suspend any restrictions on the free consumption of edible forest produce in any Government waste lands, not being reserved or protected forests.

(*c*) Due publicity shall be given by proclamation in all the neighbouring tracts affected by scarcity or famine of the grant of these concessions and, subsequently, of the date from which they shall be withdrawn.

232. *Supply of hutting materials, fuel, &c., from Government forests.*—(*a*) When the position and character of any Government forests admit of hutting materials, fuel, handles for tools and other forest produce required for relief operations being obtained more cheaply and quickly from the forest than in the

open market, such produce shall be supplied by the Divisional Forest Officers on requisitions from Executive Engineers and from other officers, to be named by the Collector, who are in charge of works or distribution of relief.

(*b*) The Divisional Forest Officer shall, in consultation with the officers concerned, arrange for the labour of procuring such produce and for the transport of it.

(*c*) The Executive Engineer shall, if necessary, procure and furnish any tools required in cutting the produce and for similar purposes.

233. *Works to be carried out at ordinary rates.*—When, in the opinion of Government, any work included in the sanctioned list of relief works in a famine area is of such a character, or requires to be executed with such urgency, as to demand the employment of ordinary public works labour at market rates, Government may exclude such work, in whole or in part, from the operations of the Code and direct that it be carried out under the ordinary rules of the Public Works Department.

234. *Takavi advances.*—The system of *takavi* advances, when administered prudently and with forethought, is an efficient instrument of relief to agriculturists in time of famine. Liberal provision shall therefore be made, in the case of famine, for such loans; and special attention shall be paid to the following points:—

(*a*) the Collector shall apply to Government from time to time for special allotments of funds for loans under both the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act;

(*b*) advances for seed and cattle shall ordinarily be disbursed in cash; advances for fodder may, when grass is being imported by Government agency, be made in kind;

(*c*) special arrangements shall be made for the prompt disbursement of these advances and for ensuring that the advances are properly applied.

Loans shall be advanced in accordance with the policy laid down in Appendix XII.

235. *Improvement of water-supply.*—Allotments shall be placed at the disposal of the Collectors for the immediate improvement of the water-supply for human beings and cattle, when such improvement is practicable and the Collectors think that the villagers require assistance (*vide* Appendix XIII).

236. *Duties of Railway Department supervising officers.*—The Government supervising officers in the Railway Department shall, during a period of scarcity or famine exercise increased vigilance and give special attention to the following matters, reporting to Government when necessary:—

(*a*) the detection of any abuse which may arise in the allotment of waggons when the demand for freight exceeds the carrying powers of any railway;

(*b*) the provision, when required, of additional temporary storage sheds for the protection of grain at stations where traffic accumulates;

(*c*) the necessity for giving precedence to food-grains and fodder over other classes of traffic, when the traffic is in excess of the carrying power of any railway;

(*d*) the securing of every possible facility for the distribution of grain and fodder to the districts where it is required;

(*e*) the power of the Government of India to control the rates for the conveyance of grain and fodder by railway.

237. *Distribution of charitable funds.*—When money is subscribed by the public for the relief of distress and its distribution is entrusted to Government agency, such distribution shall be made with the following objects:—

Object I.—In supplementing the recognized system of State relief, *e.g.*,—

(*a*) by gifts of cloths and blankets;

(*b*) by gifts of extra or special food, or medical comforts to the aged or infirm, persons of respectable birth, patients in hospitals, children and the like.

Object II.—In supplementing the relief of orphans, *e.g.*,—

(i) during famine—

(*a*) by grants-in-aid to private orphanages;

(*b*) by extra comforts, of food and clothing, for orphans supported by the State;

(ii) after the famine is over—

(*a*) by provision for the support and training of orphans left on the hands of the State;

(*b*) by grants-in-aid to societies or institutions supporting famine orphans.

Object III.—In relieving persons unwilling to accept State relief, *e.g.*,—

(*a*) by free gifts or supply of work to poor but respectable persons and *pardanishin* women;

(*b*) by employing in their own craft artisans for whom such work has not been organized by the State, and to whom labour on ordinary relief works would be a hardship;

(*c*) by grants-in-aid to private poor-houses or similar institutions;

(*d*) by maintaining or subsidizing shops for the sale of grain at cheap rates to selected persons in reduced circumstances.

Object IV.—In assisting with grants of money—

(*a*) agriculturists in want of seed grain, plough or well, bullocks or fodder for them, or implements of husbandry, or who require support during the interval between sowing and harvest;

(*b*) artisans who have lost their tools or stock in trade or are otherwise in reduced circumstances;

(*c*) persons leaving State relief to resume their ordinary avocations.